

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 17 line 25 through Page 18 line 21

A tolerance ring 13 being the first embodiment of the present invention allows a tolerance ring with ~~outward waves~~ outwardly facing protrusions 2 to be used in the apparatus but minimises or eliminates the particle production that results from the arrangements shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. The tolerance ring 13 includes a guide portion indicated generally in Figure 4 by 14. The guide portion 14 resembles a funnel, which flares towards the entrance of the bore 4. The guide portion comprises flared guide surfaces, indicated in cross-section by 15a in Figure 4, extending axially from the band 16 of the ring 13 towards the entrance of the bore 4.

The guide surfaces 15a and 15b provide an enlarged entrance to the band 16 of the ring 13 for receiving the bearing, eliminating foul on the edge of the ring as described in Example 2. Guide surfaces 15a are sufficiently smooth so as to guide the bearing 3 into the ring 13, even if there is some axial misalignment of the bearing 3 and the ring 13. As the ~~waves~~ outwardly facing protrusions 2 of the ring 13 do not abrade against any surface during assembly and the end of the bearing 3 does not abrade against the ring 13, particle production is avoided. The arrangement using an S.V. type ring is preferable for the hard disk drive.